GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4341
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2001
STANDARD OF EDUCATION IN UNIVERSITIES
KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU;SRINIVASULU KALAVA

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the standard of the Indian Universities is quite low in comparison to the many of the Western and Eastern Universities;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the manner by which the Universities are ranked by the U.G.C.

(d) whether the Union Government propose to implement any scheme for the total accountability of universities in regard to the quality of education in their institutions and the performance of their students;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) & (b): According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC),the standards of Indian Universities are not low as compared to many universities of the Western and Eastern countries.

(c) to (f): The UGC, which was established in 1956 by an Act of Parliament for the promotion and coordination of University education and determination and maintenance of standard of teaching, examination and research in universities, has established an autonomous organization, viz., National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) under Section 12(ccc) of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956. The prime function of the NAAC is to assess and accredit institutions of higher learning with an objective to help them to work continuously to improve the quality of education. NAAC assesses the institutions based on the following criteria:

`

(i) Curricular Aspects;
(ii) Teaching Learning and Evaluation;
(iii) Research, Consultancy and Extension;
(iv) Infrastructure and Learning Resources;
(v) Student support and Progression;
(vi) Organisation and Management; and
(vii) Healthy Practices.`

The accredited institutions are graded on a five point scale varying from A to A. The grade is also supplemented by a report by the team which highlights the strengths and weaknesses of the institutions under various criteria. The UGC has informed all the Universities that it is mandatory and compulsory for all the universities to get themselves assessed and accredited by NAAC.